



# new Bernal Journal

December '94/January '95

Serving the Bernal Heights Neighborhood of San Francisco

Volume 32 • Number 1 •

## Candidates from Bernal impact November elections

By Vicki Victoria

Two Bernal Heights residents made their bid for seats in the San Francisco political arena this past November 8. Tom Ammiano, who served on the Board of Education, won a seat on the Board of Supervisors after an impressive campaign. When Ammiano made the decision to run for supervisor, he endorsed Mauricio Vela as the man whom he thought worthy of filling his seat on the Board of Education. Vela did not win his bid this year, but is confident for a victory in 1996.

Ammiano, a Prospect Street resident and special education teacher, says that he ran for a seat on the Board of Supervisors because he felt that there is an imbalance of power in City Hall. "The neighborhoods are not getting their



Photo by Steve Savage

One San Francisco's newest and liveliest members to the Board of Supervisors, Tom Ammiano.

fair say. I always want to be accessible to the people," says Ammiano. "I will also look hard at having district elections again."

Supervisor Kevin Shelley, the top vote getting incumbent who retained his seat on the Board remarked that Ammiano's outrageous talents as a comedian will also make things livelier at City Hall. "It's nice to know that there will be someone who is serving on the Board who is intentionally funny."

Ammiano raised only half and sometimes even a third of the money his fellow candidates did to finance his campaign. His victory proved that he had the true support of the people. Support for Ammiano was overwhelming, especially in his own neighborhood. "We really came in strong in

Cont'd. on page 7...

## Jordan proposes curfew law for minors

By Vicki Victoria

A community meeting will be held on December 6 at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center at 7:00 p.m. to gather public input on a proposed curfew law by Mayor Frank Jordan.

Mayor Jordan's proposal is modeled after one that is currently being used in San Jose. The curfew law would make it unlawful for any minor under 17 years old to be in or on any public street, public park or any other public place between 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. on weekends and between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. on weekdays. There would be various exceptions, such as when the minor is accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or has express parental permission, the minor is participating in a religious, educational or political activity, or when the minor is engaged in an emergency.

Minors picked up for curfew violation would be taken to a central facility and released to a parent or legal guardian. This central facility would be staffed by people from community-based organizations, juvenile probation, social workers, crisis intervention personnel and police officers. Staff at the facility would assess the needs of incoming youth to attempt to determine the reason for curfew violation.

Cont'd. on page 10...

## Neighbors in Action

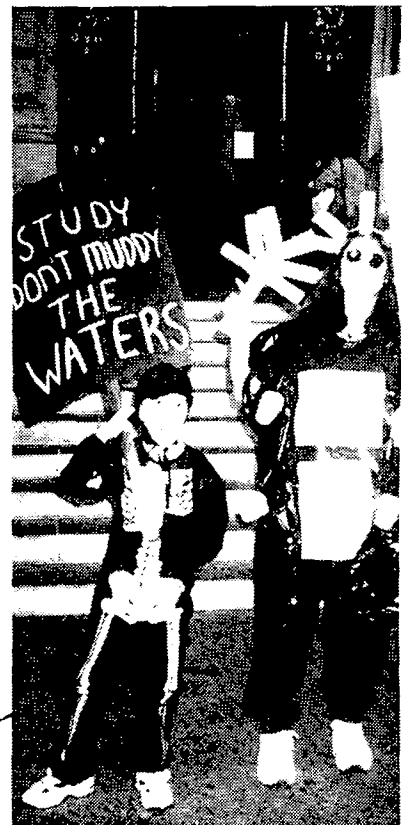
### Light at the end of the crosstown tunnel

By Jeff Marmer,  
Committee Against the Crosstown Tunnel

On Halloween, Bernal residents, environmentalists and other concerned citizens were "treated" to a significant interim victory in their fight to stop the proposed Crosstown Tunnel and Sewer Shaft on the Bernal Hilltop.

Citizens, many in their Halloween costumes, who attended the October hearing, watched the Board of Supervisors unanimously pass two resolutions that residents feel will move the crosstown tunnel issue in a more positive direction. The Nosferatu-like Crosstown Tunnel with its 30 foot wide odor and toxic emitting vent, is a 20 year old proposal that never seems to die. Thanks to the hard work of many Bernal neighbors and environmental groups, it will be temporarily put back in its coffin. Whether or not it rises again depends upon the success of the next stages of the effort.

One of the resolutions passed buys time to do a further study by putting the city on record through the request of a three year extension of deadline from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. This will allow the city to choose a method to end its raw sewage overflows into Islais Creek, a shallow part of the bay near the end of Army Street. Cont'd. on page 7...



Bernal residents attended an October hearing at City Hall to voice their opposition to the proposed Crosstown Tunnel.



Photo by Robert Henderson

Mauricio Vela, who did not gain a seat on Board of Education, gets a hug from Supervisor Susan Leal, who was successful in retaining her seat this past November.

## 6th Annual Fiesta on the Hill Best Ever!

By Demece Garepis,  
Fiesta Coordinator

Wow! Did we have a great timewith our children, youth, adults and seniors! On a sunny Saturday, October 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center and the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation hosted our annual community celebration in the Bernal

Playground. The Fiesta on the Hill was an alcohol-free, multi-ethnic, admission free celebration of our community harmony, and an opportunity to take time out and let our kids, youth and seniors do some face painting, Halloween games and major dancing.

This Fiesta was the best one yet, according to the 2,500 who attended! And even if you didn't attend, you probably heard the lively music from local groups such as PMS, The Pinch, Kombo Kwela, Giles Brothers, Remote Control and Los Compas! Tom Amianno, Kevin Shelley, and Mauricio Vela were celebrity auctioneers for our wonderful Auction.

Merchants up and down Cortland, Mission, Bayshore, and Noe Valley put their businesses on the BERNAL BUSINESS MAP, the Fiesta Adbook centerfold, which attractively illustrated our lovely neighborhood businesses, and dramatically points out that our neighborhood

Continued on page 4



Music by Remote Control waivered through the Hill at the Fiesta on the Hill.

## People on the Hill

### Maria Villazana-Ruiz: A Life in Motion

By Dorothy Coakley

It's Tuesday morning on a school day. Tricycles are whizzing around the meeting room of the Bernal Heights Library. Next door, in the preschool kitchen, parents are heating refried beans for lunch, children are painting on easels, and the door to the playground lies ajar. Amid the swirl of activity, the director of the preschool admires a young child's painting.

Maria Villazana-Ruiz is a teacher, a dancer, the mother of two young children, and a wife. In the morning she directs the Bernal Heights State Preschool which serves primarily Spanish-speaking families. In the afternoon and evening, she conducts dance classes at the Isadora Duncan Dance Center at 3435 Army Street. Her two children, Eduardo and Lucia are now 8 and 6 years old. Her husband, Eddie, is employed by the San Francisco News-

Cont'd. on page 13



Photo by Stephen Nuzzo

Maria Villazana-Ruiz is a teacher, a dancer, mother and a wife who applies in freedom and harmony in all aspects of her life.

## Neighborhood Shopping Guide & Classifieds: Pages 8 & 9

# new Bernal Journal

515 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110 • (415) 206-2144

The *New Bernal Journal* is a bi-monthly neighborhood newspaper sponsored by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with community news, ideas, issues, and events that support the Center's mission: "To empower people in efforts to preserve the ethnic, cultural, and economic diversity of Bernal Heights and improve the economic condition of low and moderate income people in Bernal Heights." The *New Bernal Journal* is distributed door to door, free in Bernal Heights. Articles express the views of contributors and not necessarily those of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center.

**For Advertising Call: 206-2144**

Next Issue: February/March '95 Distribution Date: 2/5/94

Deadlines: Editorial/Submission: 1/13/95

Advertising Reservation: 1/20/95. Camera Ready Ads: 1/27/95

We reserve the right to edit for clarity or space.

Circulation for this issue: 8,000

## New Bernal Journal Staff/Volunteers

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Youth Assistant  
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Art Production  
Distribution  
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Vicki Victoria  
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Robert Henderson, Vicki Victoria  
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David Rogers & a cast of hundreds!  
Jeff Marmer, Helen Helfer, Dorothy Coakley  
Ed Roper, Jessica Murray, Joy Ferguson,  
Barbara Pittschel, Gloria Allen, Demece Garepis  
Ellen Egbert

Copy Assistance

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## Letters

### To all Users of Bernal Hill Park

As a resident of Bernal Heights I appreciate the opportunity to use Bernal Hill Park as a jogging area a few times a week. It is one of the few remaining open space areas in the city, relatively free of air pollution and providing a magnificent vista of the surrounding Bay Area. It is also, quite easily forgotten from the human perspective, a natural habitat for wildlife.

On my last jog, I had the opportunity to stop and observe an American Kestrel, the smallest of the falcon family. Its pointed wings and straight tail, characteristic of all falcons, are tailor-made for power-diving. It often hovers, its wings beating rapidly, as it scans the ground in search of small rodents or grasshoppers.

At the same time as I enjoyed the unexpected pleasure of viewing the bird's antics, I couldn't help but feel some sadness at the plight of the Kestrel as an indicator of the

failing health of Bernal Hill as an ecosystem. With the numbers of both humans and dogs increasing on the hill, the food source of the Kestrel will inevitably be severely impacted.

Another affect of excessive human use is soil and vegetation erosion, as numerous gullies on the sides of the hill attest to. The monthly conservation efforts of a few to plant indigenous grass seed, while commendable in theory, would see futile, given the constant foot traffic on the hill.

Some serious thought should be given now by park management to perhaps restrict some areas as off-limits to pedestrians and freely roaming dogs. But the question is are we humans ready for that kind of self-regulation?

It will be a sad day when the Kestrel disappears from Bernal Hill, impoverishing that larger, ecological sense of community humans once enjoyed living with what was wild in nature.

- David Graves, Precita Avenue

## Bernal Wish List

If you can donate any of the following items, please call the non-profit listed below and help out the community!

**Precita Center, Peter, 206-7756**  
Carpentry help to build a counter for recreation program  
Basketballs!!  
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**BHCYF, Clo, 206-2140**  
Tutors: reading comprehension, English, mathematics  
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Books: Thesaurus, Spanish-English Dictionary  
Flash cards, K-5 workbooks  
Art supplies, material scraps  
**BHNC Toy Give-a-way, 206-2140**  
New toys for low income children & youth  
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Candy canes  
**BH Senior Services, 206-2145**  
New or used wheelchairs  
Unused greeting cards: Christmas, birthday, get well  
Christmas wrapping paper, ribbon, tissue, gift boxes

## Calling Guide for Police-related Services

**Emergency** (shots fired, people w/guns, knives, etc).....9-1-1  
**Non-emergency police dispatch** (Disturbances, suspicious activity, drinking, drugs, arguments, etc—don't hang up!)

.....553-0123  
**Parking Complaints** - Dept. of Parking & Traffic.....553-1200  
**Abandoned Cars** - Dept. of Parking & Traffic.....781-JUNK  
**Security Survey & Neighborhood or Bus. Watch**.....673-SAFE  
**Landlord-Tenant Disputes** - Rent Board (24hr msg).....554-9550  
**Neighbor Disputes** - Community Boards.....863-6100  
**Domestic/Family Violence** - Woman Inc. (24 hrs).....864-4722  
**Suicide Prevention Hotline** .....221-1423  
**Abused or Dangerous Animals** - Animal Control.....554-6364  
**Consumer Fraud Complaints** - District Attorney .....553-1814  
**Graffiti Cleanup** - DPW.....241-WASH  
**MUNI Shelter Damage or Graffiti**.....882-4949  
**Business Permits** (for Ingleside)-Officer Jerry Sarin.....553-1607  
**Scheduling the Community Room** - Off. Tom Martin.....553-1603  
**Community Policing Supervisor**.....333-3433



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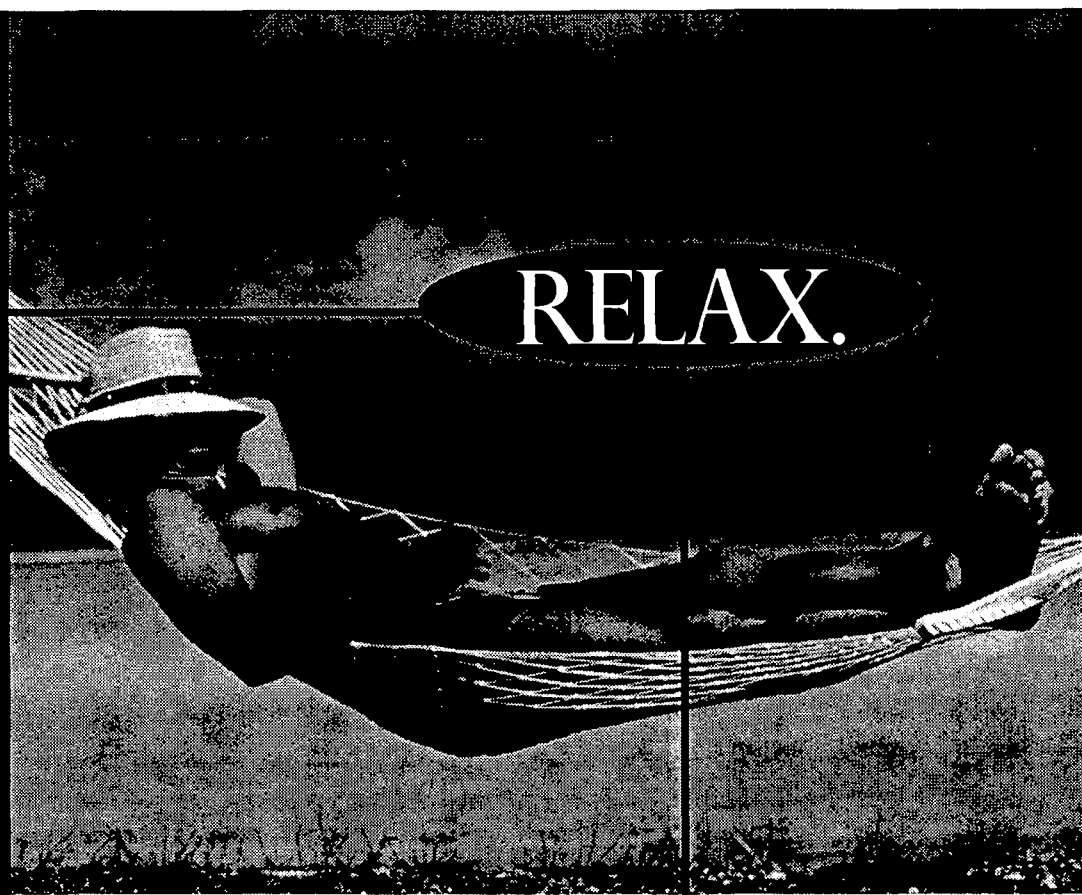
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## Grupo de la Comida

By Beth Abrams

Grupo de la Comida began in 1985 in response to the tremendous need for food in the Central American refugee community. A project of Lutheran Social Services, Grupo de la Comida feeds approximately 1,000 refugees per week. Most of the refugees are women and children from El Salvador and Guatemala.

As the peace accords in El Salvador continue to be violated and the militarization of Guatemala continues, the refugee population in the Bay Area grows in number and in need. And now in the wake of Proposition 187 and the general scapegoating of refugees, this a population that would otherwise totally fall through the cracks of a greatly diminished social service system.

Parents witnessing white phosphorus bombings of villages, massive rape campaigns and assassinations by death squads have fled their countries to protect their children from such fate. Refugees often arrive in this country hungry, ill, disenfranchised and under stress from a lifetime of poverty and oppression. Many of the children are seriously malnourished and many women are pregnant and/or nursing.

Ongoing volunteers and donations are desperately needed. Donations of new, non-war toys and cookies will bring 300 children at our holiday party. It is important to give these children some sweetness and joy, something beyond survival. Please call Beth Abrams at 282-6177 or mail monetary donations to: Grupo de la Comida, 3435 Army Street, #208, San Francisco, 94110. Please help us to show these refugees another side of our American face.



Many mothers in Grupo de la Comida have seen cuts to their food assistance. Grupo's dairy bill has increased as a result and needs caring neighbors to help.

### Deliver the New Bernal Journal!

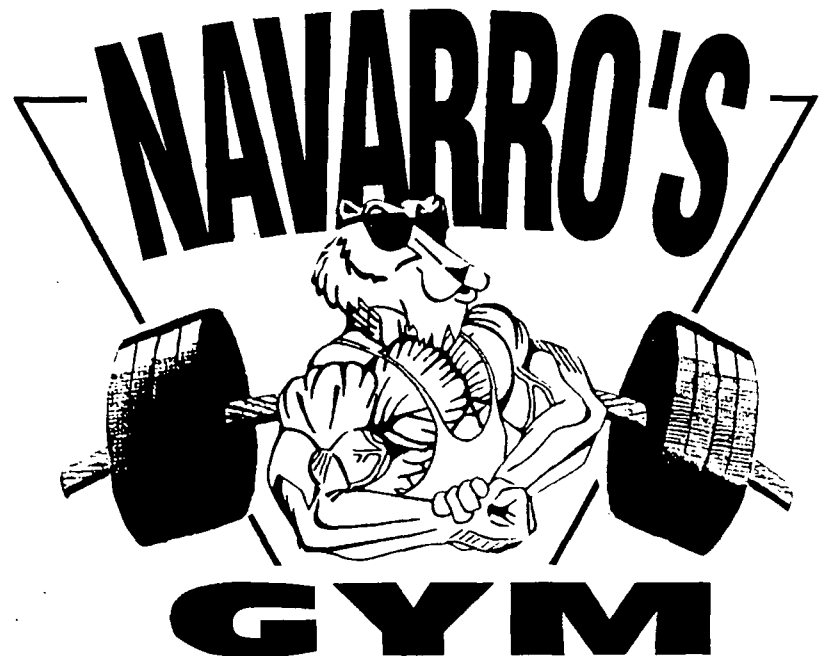
Show your support for our community newspaper by volunteering to deliver on your block or street! Call Distribution Captain David Rogers at 826-5089 Help keep a 32 year old Bernal Heights tradition alive!



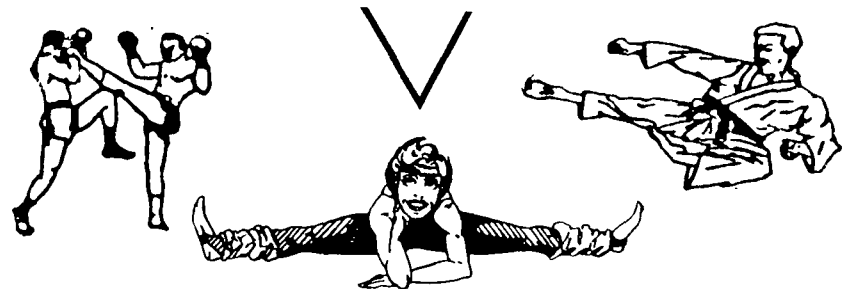
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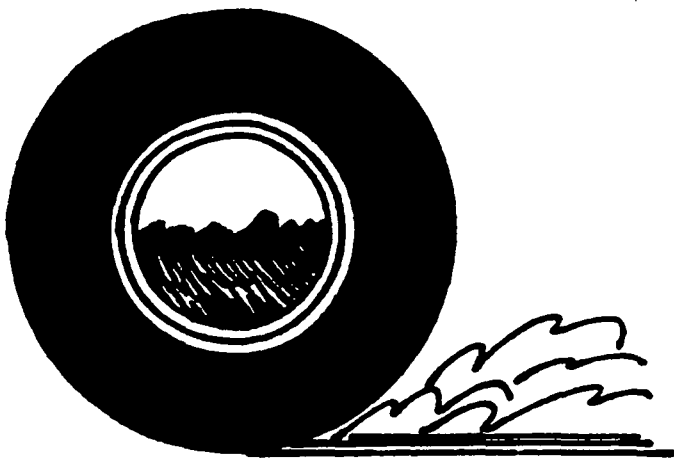


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# Fiesta '94! Cont'd. from page 1...

businesses are diverse and thriving! Let's patronize them!

Children and youth painted colorful flags and pumpkins and a beautiful arch under the coordination of Greg Gavin that decorated the entrance to the Fiesta, while inside the Bernal Gym kids of all ages jumped inside the Moonwalk and walked through the wonderful interactive Environmental Fair. The Basketball Courts were busy with youth in a hoop contests led by Gang Prevention counselor Rudy Corpuz. Greg Gavin's famous crew were at it again assist-

ing kids creating enormous Halloween hats from recycled materials. Peter Carlson and Ernesto Paul led kids on a colorful mural painting project.

Children were also entertained by the baby pumpkin painting, Halloween games, the Randall Junior Museum, and the San Francisco SPCA! Every child walked away with a few paintings and a baby pumpkin! Families taking a break from the activities, ate delicious delicacies from the food booths and while watching a neighborhood friend get dunked in the

dunking booth.

Eats were really fabulous this year, featuring Joe Johnson BBQ, Aida Macatangay's Filipino Cuisine, Pepe Nava's Cuizine Mexicana and our very own Greater Mission Consortium soda pop stand. There were lots of children waiting very patiently in line to dunk their principal, Randy Hayes of Paul Revere Elementary School, and kids of all ages were extremely happy to dunk our own Police Officers Leach and Fabiani while Sergeant Welsh presided over the dunking booth to make sure they were dunked often.

Bernal residents also got better acquainted with the many senior, youth, and community organizing programs of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, and the affordable housing development projects of our sister organization, the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, also a non profit organization. The Fiesta is BHNC's major annual fundraising event, and funds raised help to support our comprehensive senior, community development, and youth programs and affordable housing. Just look on the



The musical stars of Fiesta '94, Los Compos, filled the Bernal Playground with hot Latin sounds.

Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center's front door at 515 Cortland, and you'll find lots of volunteer time and talents! Neighbors are also encouraged to become services and programs that could use your a member of the BHNC every year. You'll



A young fiesta attendee watches as MC David Shapiro as he introduces the next great band.



The magical gateway to Fiesta '94

## THANK YOU FIESTA '94 CONTRIBUTORS!

### Comedores/Comedores \$100+

Doug Holloway  
Helen Helfer  
Robert Prentice  
Jill Stanton

### Fiesta Ambassadors \$50+

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Frank DeRosa  
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### Fiesta Ambassadors \$25+

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Suzanne & Mike Simms  
R.P. Copperud  
Beulah Heagren  
Hamilton & Aitken, Architects  
Thomas Ammiano  
Marie & Carmelo Annuzzi  
Barbara Bagot &  
Eugenio Bagot Lopez  
Bill Rumpf &  
Eve Rumpf-Sternberg  
Kathryn Erickson  
Van Richards  
Julian D. Munoz  
Barbara Arbucci  
Alison Moed &  
Michael Paolercio  
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Susan Patton &  
Thomas Fox  
Mary Ellen Hannibal  
Richard Morganstein  
Rose P. Mateo



### Fiesta Fans \$5+

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Laura Kim Lee  
Rudy & Susan Ortiz  
Peter Leaf  
Sally Holland  
Jo Ellen Brothers  
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John Doll  
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Raymond Conrady  
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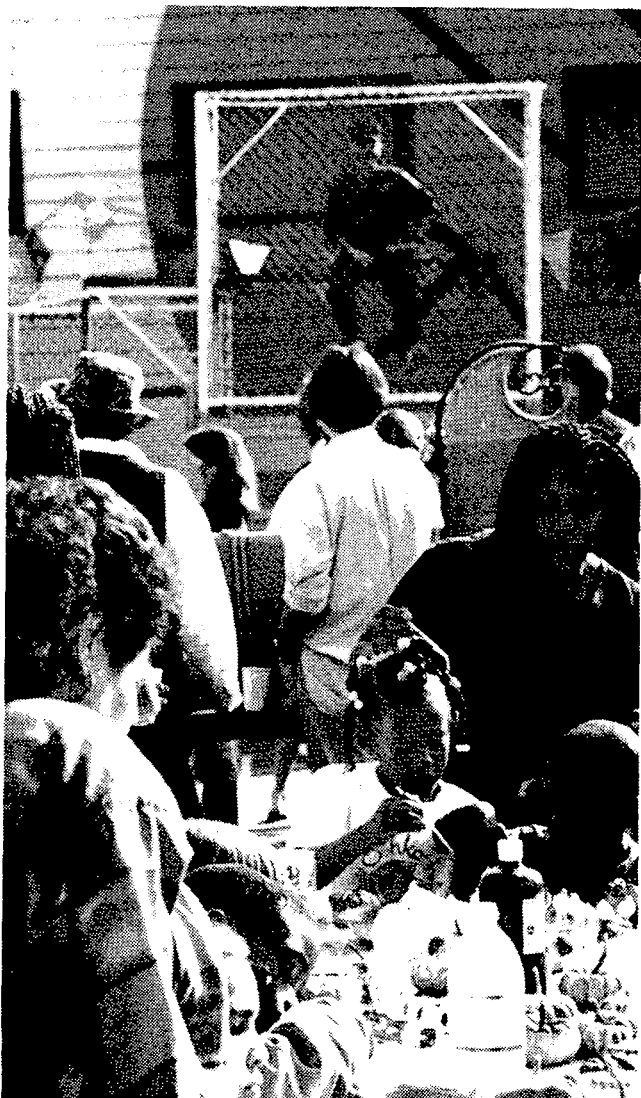
Emergency Department  
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get a bimonthly newsletter keeping you informed of all the activities of Bernal Heights when you become a member! Remember, Bernal Heights is our neighborhood, and we like making our own unique, fun brand of economic and cultural diversity! The Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center would like to thank all the incredible Fiesta contributors and volunteers, especially Dave "I am Music" Martinez, Steve "I've been an MC all my life" Shapiro, Ann "Children's Activities Volunteer Coordinator of the Planet" Golden and Julian "Mr. Raffle" Navarro, and the very special Bernal individual, corporate and merchant sponsors who helped make this Fiesta the best one ever! See you next October at Fiesta '95!

Fiesta Photos by Robert Henderson



Super Fiesta Coordinator, Demecé Garepis



Children delight in pumpkin painting while Officer Jerry Neitz is a good sport about serving his time in the Dunking Booth.

Thank You  
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# United Way for Bernal Heights

## The 1994-95 season for United Way and the Combined Federal Campaign has begun.

Although the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center is not a member of either group, you can designate your gift to us if you specify us on the Donor Option card.

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Also, many private companies have a matching gift program and will match your charitable contribution. Please ask your employer if your company has such a program. Maybe you can double your contribution to the Neighborhood Center!

There are many worthwhile groups asking for help during these difficult economic times. Please remember your neighborhood and the services the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center provides when making your contribution this fall.

## Support community service in Bernal Heights on your United Way Donor Option Card!



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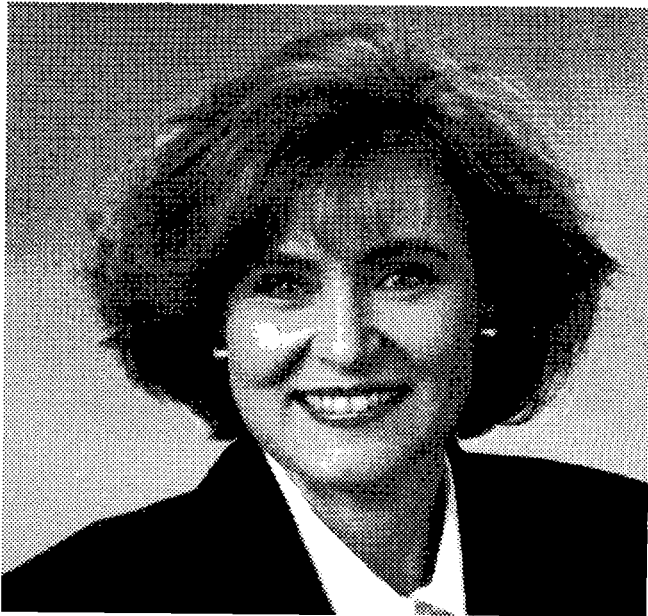
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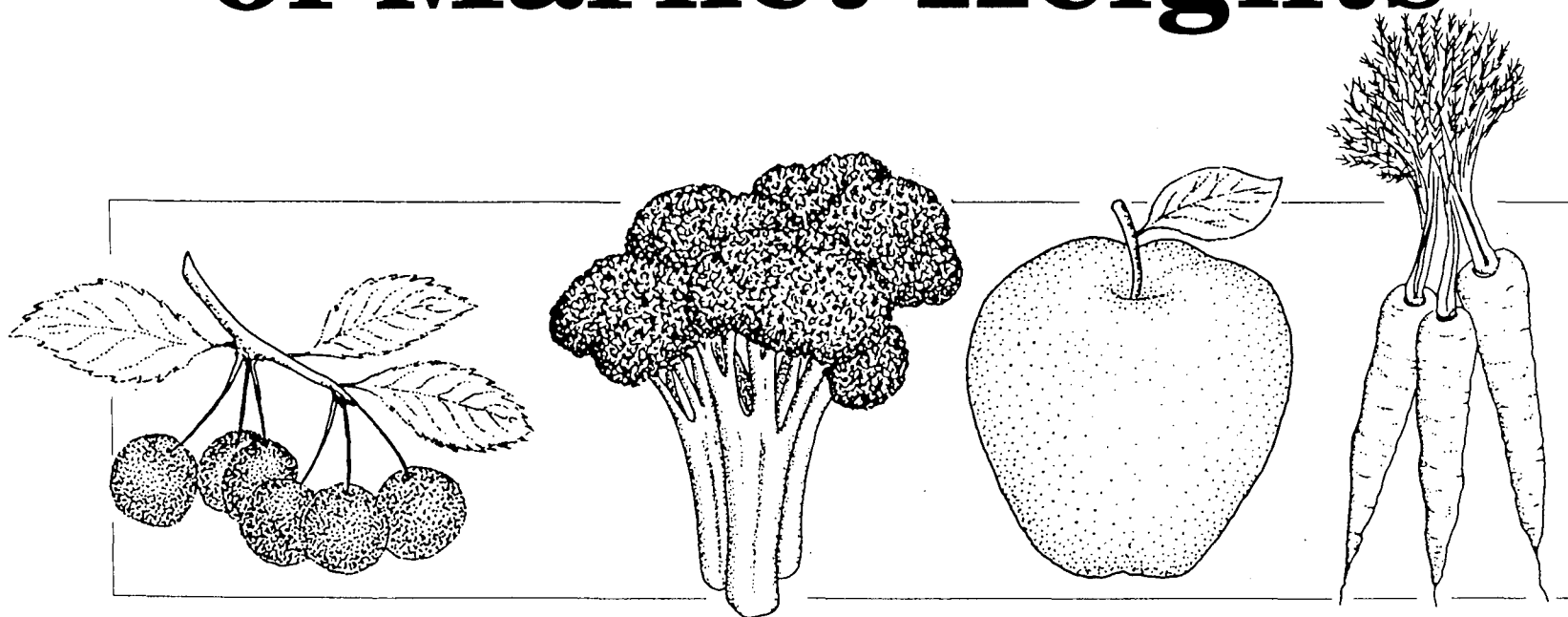
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# The Farmers' Market Will Remain Open During the Construction of Market Heights



The Alemany Farmers' Market at 100 Alemany Boulevard off Highway 280, will remain open and undisturbed during the construction of Market Heights, an affordable family housing development on the hillsides behind the market. We appreciate your cooperation and continued patronage as we build needed housing for working families.

For years, neighbors have enjoyed this selling stalls full of farm fresh produce and goods on Saturdays at Farmers' Market. Construction of Market Heights will in no way interrupt the Saturday market days. No construction will take place on Saturdays and all construction equipment will be located away from the market's parking spaces on the weekend.

## Come and shop at Farmers' Market this and every Saturday!



This notice was paid for by the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation, a non-profit community based agency working with the community of Bernal Heights to build and rehabilitate affordable housing.

*For more information about the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation or the Market Heights project, please call Stephen Dunn at (415) 206-2140.*

## Around the Neighborhood

With Gloria Allen

### An Educator with a Sense of Humor

I had fun sharing a few moments of life with Tom Ammiano on a bright Halloween afternoon at the edge of Bernal Heights in Cafe Commons. We talked about the both "peaceful and serendipitous" neighborhood of Bernal Heights before he had to dash off to campaign for the Board of Supervisors.

Tom is an energetic, expressive, generous man who came to live in Bernal Heights in 1973 when he bought a perfect stucco house with a garden and a view on Prospect Street. Tom bought the home from the Ruggerio Family, for whom it was built in 1953.



Tom Ammiano helps out as an auctioneer at the Fiesta '94 Auction in October.

He still has the old Singer sewing machine which Mrs. Ruggerio left for him in the basement when she moved.

He chose Bernal Heights because he liked its nonhomogeneous housing, the colorful history of lanes and barns and the diversity of its residents. "I like the diversity of Bernal Heights—it has never let me down," says Tom. "The other day my sister and I took a walk around the hill and she said she could see why I live in this neighborhood—you don't know you're in the City." For 16 years, Tom's bright blue house also served as a family child care center run by his "partner for life" Tim Curbo.

Tom was an educator and an activist from the time he came to San Francisco from his hometown of

Newark, New Jersey, in the sixties. After earning his M.A. in special education from San Francisco State, Tom became a special education teacher for the San Francisco Unified School District from 1968 - 1990.

Since 1981, Tom gained popularity as a stand-up comedian, often playing Josie's Cabaret and the Valencia Rose, as well as volunteering at many benefits from San Francisco to Los Angeles. His humor is based on the universals, with a gay perspective, taking from his experience of living openly gay in San Francisco. It is natural for him to perform, to quickly see the funny side of life. Tom says, "Life is both comic and tragic and I appreciate both elements. No matter how dark things get you can usually find some humor or some light. That's a survival tool." He appreciates his gifts and opportunities and has used his talents to help others. Tom is clear and direct as he expresses himself, never wasting time or words.

*Note: On the morning of our interview, Tim Curbo had been hospitalized. He passed away on November 3rd. A few days later Tom was elected a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on November 8th.*

### Bernal Candidates

Cont'd. from page 1...

Bernal. I really want to thank Bernal Heights."

The victory is a bittersweet one for Ammiano, who lost his partner of 16 years to AIDS just a few days before his victory. Many neighbors on the hill knew and loved Tim Curbo, who, like Ammiano, was involved in many community efforts to help improve education for children. Cesar Chavez School, where Curbo taught, held a moving memorial service to their beloved teacher on November 10.

Ellert Street resident Vela also ran an impressive campaign that also relied heavily on enthusiastic volunteer power as opposed to enormous campaign spending. Vela's dedicated work with youth issues and concerns in the community as director of the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, as well as having two young sons in the public school system, gave him excellent qualifications to serve on the Board of Education.

Vela believed that the schools and their success in education could be strengthen between more collaborations with community organizations and the school system. "I am committed to creating community schools embraced by their neighborhood and open from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Young people and their families would take part afterschool and in the evenings."

Many parent and teacher groups, supervisors, community groups and city leaders endorsed him. Vela also won major endorsements from the S.F. Examiner, S.F. Independent and S.F. Weekly newspapers. "I want to thank everyone who worked so hard on the campaign and believed in me," says Vela. After a strong showing in his first campaign, Vela looks forward to a successful bid for School Board in 1996. Vela will continue his work at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, fighting for more services for our youth and children.

### Crosstown Tunnel

Cont'd. from page 1...

The second resolution calls for the Department of Public Works to do a further study of environmentally superior alternatives than those they currently have on the table. The resolution also instructs the DPW to include these new alternatives in their "Bayside Discharge Alternatives Report" which will be the legal document that the supervisors will ultimately choose the sewage solution from.

While we have won the right the get additional options studied, we must also continue to lobby the Board of Supervisors towards choosing the more environmentally correct solutions.

There are, however, interests who want to see the Crosstown Tunnel built including leaders of the Bayview/Hunters Point. They agreed not to oppose the alternative study resolution because it kept their preferred option on the table.

The passing of these resolutions represented a major positive step forward, especially with its language that a compromise will be worked out with the DPW. "The Department of Public Works is showing a willingness to transcend the Crosstown Tunnel boondoggle and look instead at higher levels of treatment," said Bruce Livingston, California Director of Clean Water Action, and a Bernal resident.

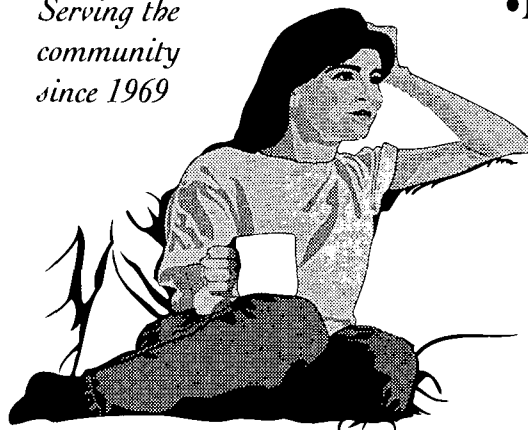
Residents are optimistic about the new working relationship with the DPW. Santa Rosa, facing a similar wastewater problem, had to be forced by a lawsuit (argued by a Bernal Heights resident, Trent Orr) to do a serious study of environmentally superior alternatives. They now have 32 possible options, but it had cost the city and the citizens a lot more time and money to get to the same place.

It is hopeful that a common ground can be

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# Youth!

## United Players: Youth organizing against violence

By Joy Ferguson,  
GMC Coordinator

At Balboa High School, one of the largest high schools in San Francisco with about 1,500 students, racial tensions can escalate on a huge scale. At a recent Friday night at a dance after a football game there was a fight between African-Americans and Filipinos where two people were seriously injured. With the help of Rudy Corpuz, a Gang Prevention Counselor at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, and school staff, students involved decided to go against the tide and work out their differences before the troubles escalated again. Jaimen Boddie, a senior at Balboa, said, "The press over-exaggerated the whole situation." This made it even more difficult for the students to come together.

The students organized and called themselves the "United Players" or "UP." This group of young men at Balboa High School not only want to keep the peace between their races, but want to turn the school's reputation around through a long term approach to dealing with racial tensions. Andre Alexander, a sports coach at the school, has been organizing weekly meetings. "This is something that has never been done. It's a great idea and I'm very excited to be a part of it. I hope that it will be successful enough to reach other schools."

The group meets on Wednesdays for lunch with Juliette Montevirgen, the Principal; Rudy Corpuz, who works closely with the Filipino students; and Andre Alexander, a coach who has built a strong relationship with some of



Some of Balboa's United Players: Jerryymi Mendoza, Emilo Alforque, Koshawn Rackley, Rudy Corpuz, Bradley Young, Richard Glover, Ferdie Puyumo and Jomare.

the African-American students. After tensions relaxed over the fight, the group turned their attentions on how to reach out to other racial groups to join UP and to bring the message of UP to the whole school through special activities. "Our biggest obstacle will be to stick together," said Bradley Young, a ninth grader. Ferdinand Payumo, 12th grade, agreed, "We need to stay involved and stay united." With the support of the principal and some faculty, the group plans on hosting intramural sports as their first activity and then hopes to move on to other activities promoting cultural education and understanding involving the whole

school.

"There are still going to be fights", said Simonn Saccalan, 11th grader, "But if we can get it together everyone at the whole school should be like a family. If you have problems you should talk it out instead of using fists." Rudy Corpuz said the group "Has a lot to teach people about putting aside differences." The students are seeking recognition for their work as an interracial group for peace because they feel that there is too much negative press about youth violence. There is a group from City College that heard about UP and began filming for a documen-

tary on the youth driven program. Ferdinand Payumo ended his comments by adding, "We need support for this program. There are lots of players [other students] that need to get involved in UP for the program to work. Like Rodney King said - can't we all just get along?"

*Note: On November 28, a huge fight involving many students occurred at Balboa High School. It is hoped that this incident will not deter the first amazing steps taken by the brave students of United Players who are working towards getting the school moving in a positive direction.*

## It takes a whole village to raise one child

by Clo Escudero  
NIT-AMP Community  
Organizer, BHNC

In the spirit of this African proverb, which encourages the efforts of an entire community, The Bernal Heights Children, Youth and Families Coalition, Paul Revere Elementary School and Recreation and Parks Department (through Paul Revere's Yard Program) are working in partnership for the sake of our children. All three are pooling their resources in order to offer more positive alternatives and support for our young people.

Presently, Paul Revere School offers an Afterschool Program from Monday-Thursday from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. with activities such as arts & crafts and tutoring for an average of fifty children. Paul Revere's Yard Program offers participation in seasonal sports for middle and high school age students such as football, basketball, baseball and soccer.

As a result of this newly formed partnership, the Afterschool Pro-

gram will be expanded to include other activities such as tutoring, photography, video production, music, dance and sports. The sports component of this program will be expanded to offer activities such as volleyball, ping pong, chess tournaments and t-ball for school age children. This new and improved program will begin in January, 1995 and end in June. The program will operate Monday-Thursday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

All groups involved in the partnership will be working to secure funding for the continuation of this program beyond June of next year. Our vision is to have a year-round program which will exist not only at Paul Revere School, but at the other two elementary schools in our Bernal Heights, Junipero Serra and Leonard R. Flynn.

To ensure that this newly expanded Afterschool Program is a success, we need the help of our neighbors. We are seeking neighborhood volunteers who have the expertise or the desire to help with the activities that were listed above. Please refer to the Wish List on page 2 to see how you can help. Sign up to volunteer today. Call Clo at 206-2152 or simply come by the BHNC at 515 Cortland. Remember, it is only by working together that we can and will make a difference!!!

## Curfew

Cont'd. from page 1...

In a recent survey of crime rates of major U.S. cities conducted by the New York City Police Department, it was noted that San Francisco experienced the largest reduction in crime in 1994. Mayor Jordan attributes this drop to his leadership. "Major crime in San Francisco has dropped 26% during the last two years of my administration. This is due in part to numerous policies set by my administration."

"Yet, regardless of the declining crime rate, crime remains the number one concern of most people. This is due in large part to increasing youth crime and violence," says Jordan. "As part of my ongoing efforts to increase public safety and to stem the rise in violence caused by juveniles, I have proposed a curfew law to protect youth and provide them with access to service."

Some groups who work with youth say that it is a flawed proposal, is not a good idea and will not solve crime problems. "It punishes all kids, instead of targeting

the real problems of crime, like gun control," says Joy Ferguson, who works to improve services to youth. "It will also discriminate against low income families."

Because the curfew would require parents to come to a central facility to retrieve their child, Ferguson believes that this is just one of many details that has been overlooked. "Is a low income parent without a car expected to get on a bus at 2:00 a.m. in the morning to get their kid?"

Ferguson also believes that the curfew law will give police license to randomly harass youth. "It takes away the civil rights from youth just because they are young. It's like martial law and doesn't seem like the best or the right way to approach things."

City representatives will be available at the community meeting to answer questions regarding the proposed curfew law.

In addition to the Bernal Heights meeting, several other meetings will be held in several other neighborhoods in the city in order for the public to give its input about the proposal. For more information, call Meagan Levitan at the Mayor's Office at 554-6498.

## The Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center Youth Committee's Annual Holiday Toy Give-Away

**Help by donating new toys to low income children and youth in our community and make their holidays merrier.**


**Please bring in your toy donations to the Neighborhood Center before December 12th.**

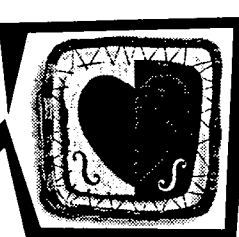
**For applications to receive a toy please stop by the Neighborhood Center between 9am - 5pm, Monday-Friday. Toys will be given out on Tuesday, December 20th from 3 - 6 pm.**

If you would like to volunteer or have any questions please call us at 206-2140.



**Bernal Heights  
Neighborhood Center**  
515 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco





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274-0250

Campaign sponsored by Maryn and Y&B. Photo by Fred Vanderpool.

## Picture perfect day of giving

The sounds of hair driers, camera flashes and laughter emitted from Isa's Hair Studio on a windy, but sunny November 14. It was Senior Portrait Day, an event that treated thirty one seniors to a free makeover and photograph for the holiday season.

Isa, who generously volunteered his salon at 626 Cortland Avenue for the event said "Making people happy and having fun is what it is all about." Both he and Jean were busy cutting and styling while makeup artist Bebe applied eyeshadow and sumptuous lip color to the delighted seniors.

Bernal Elders Support Team volunteer Fay Farrar escorted Frances Avila, age 81, to the special day. "It's nice that a Cortland shop would give some time to treat seniors—it says that they would like to make the neighborhood a happy place."

This special treat was the result of great organization by five students from the University of San Francisco's MBA Program. Julie Wilson, Jeanne Nagley, P. Guy Piboonvanich, Muhammad Usman Ghani and Debbie Artz planned the community service project as an exercise in leadership. Debbie, who lives in Bernal Heights, proposed that her classmates do something to help of the



Scott Stephens and Isa created gorgeous new hair styles, free of charge, to 31 very happy and appreciative participants of Bernal Heights Senior Services

seniors in her community. The pride and joy on each of the seniors' faces proved that the weeks of hard work by the students was successful.

All of the students were impressed by warm and giving attitude of Bernal's merchants. "Everyone was so willing to help out and that's really impressive," said Debbie. The students were really grateful to Arrow Pharmacy, Good Life Groceries, Walgreens and Nicco's Cafe who donated film & processing and refreshments to

make the day a success.

Scott Stephens from Every Six Weeks at 323 Noe also came to help out. He said he enjoyed the good feeling from volunteering. "It gets you in the spirit of the holidays—the spirit of giving."



Maria Sanchez was "delighted" with her makeover and portrait that made her feel and look like a movie star.



Frances Avila has her free portrait taken while her BEST volunteer, Fay Farrar, looks on with care and admiration.

## Seniors!

**Wanted: Carolers & Merry-Makers**

## Share the Christmas Spirit

### Cable Car Christmas Caroling

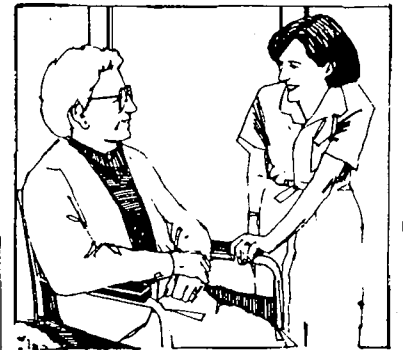
**Tuesday & Wednesday, December 20 & 21, 5:30-8:00PM**

Again this holiday season, volunteers in Bernal Heights will share two nights of joy and song via a motorized cable car, serenading seniors who now spend most of their time at home. If you'd like to join the fun, make your reservation early since space is limited. *Children are welcome but must be supervised by an adult.*

### Volunteer for our elders

This neighborly gesture of taking a bit of holiday magic to seniors' homes is just one of the many ways that folks in Bernal Heights can help homebound elders. Volunteers provide a variety of needed services such as installing smoke alarms, grab bars and safety strips; provide rides to the doctor; minor home repairs; delivering food for the Emergency Meal Program; and many other services. Some elders especially appreciate a regular phone call or visit. If you're interested in sharing a few hours a month with a senior in Bernal Heights, please give us a call. A volunteer orientation and training will be offered on Saturday, January 21, 1995.

For more information about: Christmas caroling, becoming a Bernal Heights Senior Services volunteer, or making a donation for the caroling event call Carmen Mendieta at 206-9177



**Volunteer Orientation & Training  
Saturday, January 21, 1995**

Bernal Heights Senior Services invites to our annual

## Christmas Arts & Crafts Boutique

**Saturday & Sunday  
December 10 & 11, 1994**

**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

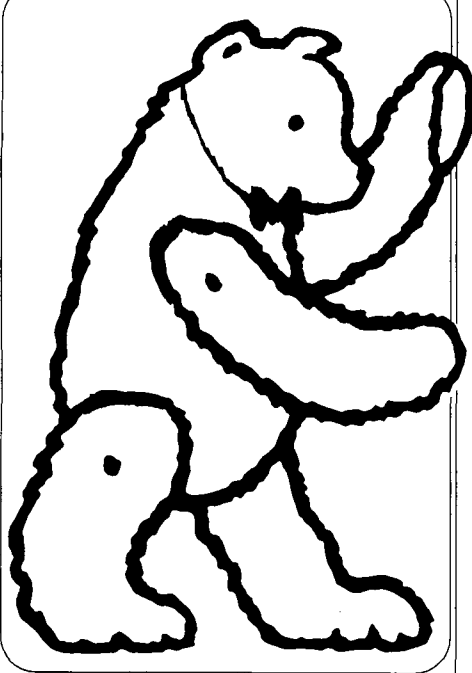
Beautiful handmade crafts by Bernal Seniors

Budget Santa Gift Items from \$1.00 - \$3.00

Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus at 12:00 noon!

Pancake Breakfast only \$4.00

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515 Cortland Avenue, San Francisco • 206-2145**



## Gifts on the Hill

Beautiful handmade

Teddy bears

Wreaths

Decorations

Herb Vinegars

Quilts

Pillows

Knitted Creations

Christmas Cards

and more

Made with love

by Bernal Seniors

**513 Cortland Avenue  
Bernal Heights, San Francisco**

## Bernal Hilltop Natural History

### Pussy Willows

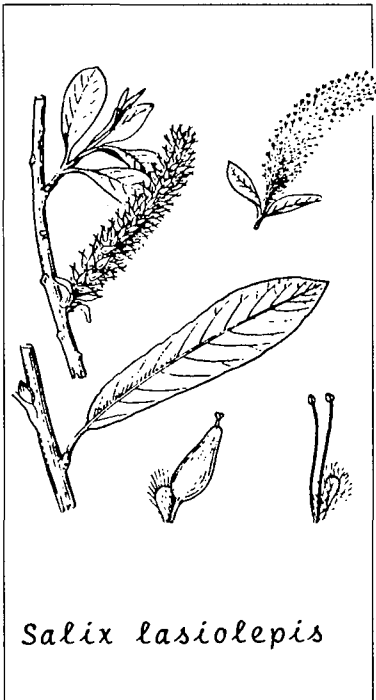
By Barbara Pitschel

One Bernal Hilltop's few native shrubs is the "arroyo willow" *Salix lasiolepis*, which grows on the north side of the hill at the top of Folsom Street. The reason it occurs at this location is the presence of a seep, a place where ground water comes to the surface. In some spots along Bernal's north slope, there appear to be natural springs at ground level. In other places, the water was brought to the surface by the road cut for Bernal Heights Boulevard. Early photographs indicate that willows were here before the road was built. Most willows need to keep their feet wet, which is why they are most commonly seen in riparian areas (along stream banks.)

Although *S. lasiolepis* is the most common willow in the Bay Area, it is no less of a delight to watch. The species generally grows as a 10 to 18 foot tall shrub, but has occasionally been seen as a 35 foot tall tree. Like most plants on our wind-swept hill with its shallow soils, our willows are on the small end of the growth spectrum. The bark is smooth or lightly seamed. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants, so the plant is said to be "dioecious." Both kinds of flowers are in catkins (which is not a pun on "pussy willow," although it should be). Before the catkins open they are covered in woolly bud scales, which are the pussy willows that children collect and florists sell. The soft male flowers have many stamens tipped with yellow pollen. Female catkins are made up small, swollen capsules, which contain tiny seeds. Each seed has a fluff of "cotton," which permits it to be dispersed by the wind. Our arroyo willow is one of the species whose catkins appear before the leaves come out in the spring. When the long, oval leaves emerge, they are green above with pale white fuzzy undersides. This species has also been known as "white willow."

Willows were extremely important in the lives of native people. The shoots were used in basketry. Freshly cut poles used in building sprouted leaves which offered protection from sun and wind. The wood was highly esteemed as fuel. The tough, fibrous inner bark was used to make rope and clothing, or dried and powdered for chewing tobacco. The bark was also used externally to wash itches, and taken internally as a tea to cure chills and fever. Remember, aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid, from the root word *Salix*) was originally derived from willow bark.

Watch willows begin to bud out in early spring as you help with Bernal Hilltop Native Grassland Restoration Project work parties on the third Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Meet at the foot of the road to the microwave tower. Call me at 282-5066 if you need more information.



*Salix lasiolepis*

## Geographical History of the Hill

### The Names Behind Bernal's Streets

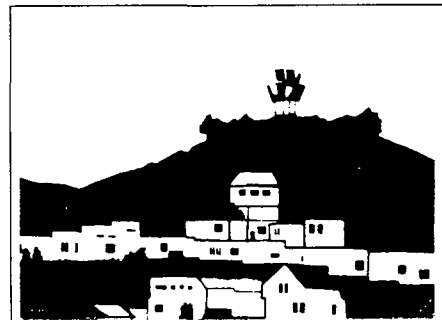
By Ed Roper

Rufus Putnam (1717-1790) was a field officer in the American Revolution, fought under Horatio Gates at Saratoga, and was made a Brigadier General in 1793. He supervised the building of Marietta, Ohio and from 1896 to 1803 was the U.S. Surveyor General.

John Ellis Wool (1784-1869) born in Newburg, N.Y. A distinguished Captain in the war of 1812, rose to Brigadier General by 1841 and served under General Zachary Taylor at Buena Vista during the Mexican-American War.

Franconia Landing was the point where scows unloaded bales of hay for the near by Pioneer Race Track, which was located near what is now Army and York Streets. Later there was a "Franconia House" which served refreshments. Prior to 1909, the street was called Winslow Street.

Harrison Street is not named for William H. Harrison, who served only 41 days as our shortest lived President, nor is it name for his grandson, Benjamin Harrison, who became president between the two terms of Grover Cleveland. The street is named after Edward H. Harrison who was a businessman and a member of the town council in 1849.



Jacob Primer Leese left his native Ohio in 1835 and moved to Los Angeles. Not finding the town to his liking, he moved to Monterey. After being granted a homestead on today's Grant and Clay Streets, Leese built a large and expensive home. The home was later expanded and became the town's first St. Francis Hotel, which was noted then as being the first hotel to put sheets on its bed. The hotel and its sheets were eventually swept away in a fire in the mid 1850's. In 1837, Leese married General Mariano G. Vallejo's attractive sister, Rosalie. The family prospered and Leese bought much land, including a large grant in Visitacion Valley. Leese and his family eventually moved to Sonoma to be near his brother-in-law General Vallejo after the Hudson Bay Company made him a "fabulous offer" for his home.

*Editor's Note: We regret an error in our last issue's article. In regards to the section on Ogden Street, the line should read: "Gordon Rae was the Yerba Buena representative for the Hudson Bay Company."*

## Gardening on the Hill

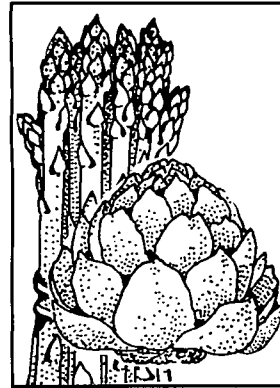
### Winter Gardening

By Rose Blum

**Winter vegetable gardening.** Gardeners who are very patient can schedule the planting of Asparagus crowns into their December gardening schedules. It will take two to three years before the crowns begin to produce pencil-thick shafts for harvesting. The wait is well worth it as mature Asparagus will continue to produce for an average of 12 years. Plant crowns two feet apart, six inches deep in well-rotted manure and keep weeds from strangling the tender shoots. Well-rotted manure is also essential for strong Rhubarb plants, which enjoy the sunnier parts of your garden in rows at least three feet apart. Although started plants will produce large stalks and leaves the first year, it is best not to harvest them and give the plant a chance to become well established. Globe Artichoke plant divisions can be planted in December, three feet apart. Again, patience is required—it will take at least a year before the plant is established and ready to produce.

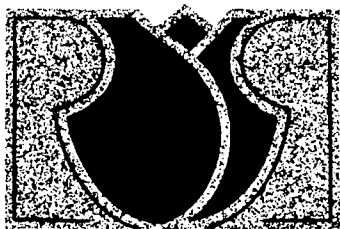
**Rake-n-Compost Now.** Winter is an ideal time to clean up your garden in anticipation of an early and healthy start for Spring. Fallen leaves and spent annuals should not be left to rot or mold, as your garden can become more susceptible to disease. Leaves raked from your yard can be easily added to your compost pile. Large garden refuse, such as corn stalks, should be chopped or shredded first to aid faster decomposition. Plants that appear diseased should not be added to your compost pile, as diseases can live quite comfortably in your warm heap and then transferred into your garden when the compost is mixed into the soil. Tomato vines should be thrown away never be added to the compost pile, as they are common carriers of plant disease.

**Living Christmas Trees.** Living, potted trees can brighten your holidays this month as well as your porch, patio or deck the rest of the year. Hose your tree off a few days before bringing it in to help keep it moist, as well as evict any little critters that may have adopted your tree as its home. Indoor heating will dry out your tree quickly. To protect your tree, don't keep it indoors for more than two weeks and give it plenty of water. Using miniature light bulbs or ideally no lightbulbs at all will also help. After moving your tree outdoors, water its pot often, as containers tend to dry out quickly.



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- Add winter color to brighten up a sleepy garden.
- Plant trees and shrubs to take advantage of rains.
- Mulch beds to help retain moisture.
- Clean up your garden for its health and beauty.
- Last chance to prune roses, shrubs, and trees.

**Call us at: 824-3458**

Mike Boss, Botanist, Contr. Lic. #562817  
1615 Cortland Avenue, SF, CA 94110

## Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center December & January Board & Committee Meetings

### Fundraising Committee

Monday, 12/19, 6:00 p.m.

### Children, Youth & Families Coalition

Tuesday, 12/20, 1/17, 7:00 p.m.

### Youth Committee

Thursday, 11/28, 1/12, 5:30 p.m.

### Outreach Committee

Tuesday, 12/6, 1/3, 7:00 p.m.

### Senior Committee

Monday 12/5, 1/9, 4:00 p.m.

### BHNC Board Meeting

Monday, 1/16, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

*All meetings held at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Ave. Call 206-2140 for more information.*



## *People on the Hill*

**Cont'd. from page 1...**

paper Agency. He and his co-workers have just settled a popularly supported strike against the agency. Maria literally is a life in motion.

The Bernal Heights State Preschool consistently produces some of the most well-rounded children in the city's schools. Graduates remember the encouragement and self-esteem they received in preschool as being formative in their educational expectations. This is fostered deliberately by Maria, as the director of the school.

"I require a lot of parent participation," said Maria. "I try to convince the parents to respect their own judgement and not to hurry the child into a heavy academic load. Children learn at their own pace, but its easy to believe that they must be at the same skills level as their peers. You have to believe in your child and yourself." Because ninety percent of the preschool's children do not speak English when they enter the school, Maria finds that focusing on social, emotional and child centered curriculums work.

Maria grew up in Dinuba, a small town near Fresno. As a child and teenager she picked fruit: grapes, peaches, oranges and tomatoes. Few creative outlets were offered to students in the Dinuba school district, so after high school, she left for Hawaii to find her own cultural expression. She studied musical theory, guitar...and finally dance. "I read about the life of Isadora Duncan in a book I got from the library. I knew that this was the dance that I had known all of my life."

Six months after moving to San Francisco to study dance, she became part of the "S.F. Duncan Dancers" tour of New York. With the endorsement of the Duncan family, she has become the dance center's director. She's performed in Moscow, participated S.F. State's International Dance Institute and has received much praise from critics.

Maria and her family, like many others, are recovering from the turmoil of the recent

## Crosstown Tunnel

**Cont'd. from page 7...**

forged with residents and leaders in Bayview/Hunter's Point, which is saddled with the huge Southeast Treatment Plant that frequently fouls the air and streets in their neighborhood. Many in Bayview/Hunter's Point have vigorously argued for years that the Crosstown Tunnel is the solution to their problems, although the DPW states flatly that the tunnel will not help the smell or the pipe's overflows.

With the passing of Proposition D, money should now be available to fix some of the problems with the sewage plant. Many Bernal residents have expressed an interest in working with Bayview to insure that these problems are indeed cleaned up. They are also confident that the alternative study will provide mutually beneficial answers that end the pollution in the bay, without polluting Bernal Heights or the ocean.

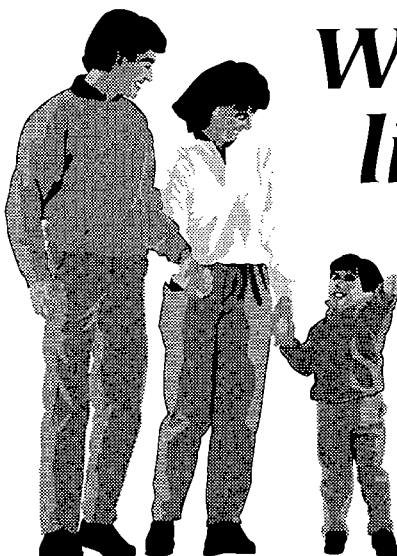
*If you have any interest, energy and/or special skills and want to get involved, call Jeff Marmer at 285-2429 or Beth Abrams at 282-6177 for more information.*

strike. After fourteen years of working for the S.F. Newspaper Agency, Maria's husband Ed was one of hundreds of workers notified that the newspapers were reorganizing and would be laying off many of the people who helped to produce the S.F. Chronicle and Examiner. "It takes a toll on people's minds," says Maria. "You feel you're part of the newspaper family and then one day you are no longer needed."

Maria's cheerful belief in her husband had been critical during the strike...and it's been there amid all of the other things she's does in her busy days. Reflecting on the strike settlement negotiations, Maria said, "It's all a matter of respect. You have to become more free, more harmonious and more natural. Like the preschool, like dance, you've got to respect the natural dignity of the individual." Maria does.

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## Helping with Medi-Cal

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Your first recycling day after January 1st, by 6 a.m.

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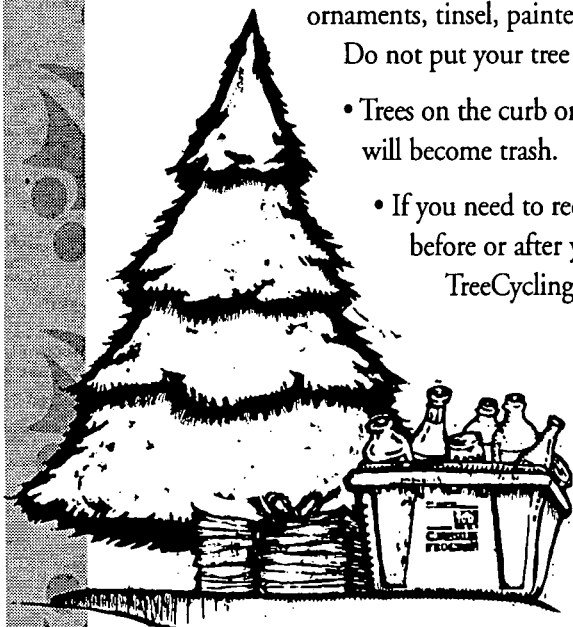
At the curb, next to your blue bin.

Apartment residents: at the curb on your street's first recycling day after January 1st, by 6 a.m.

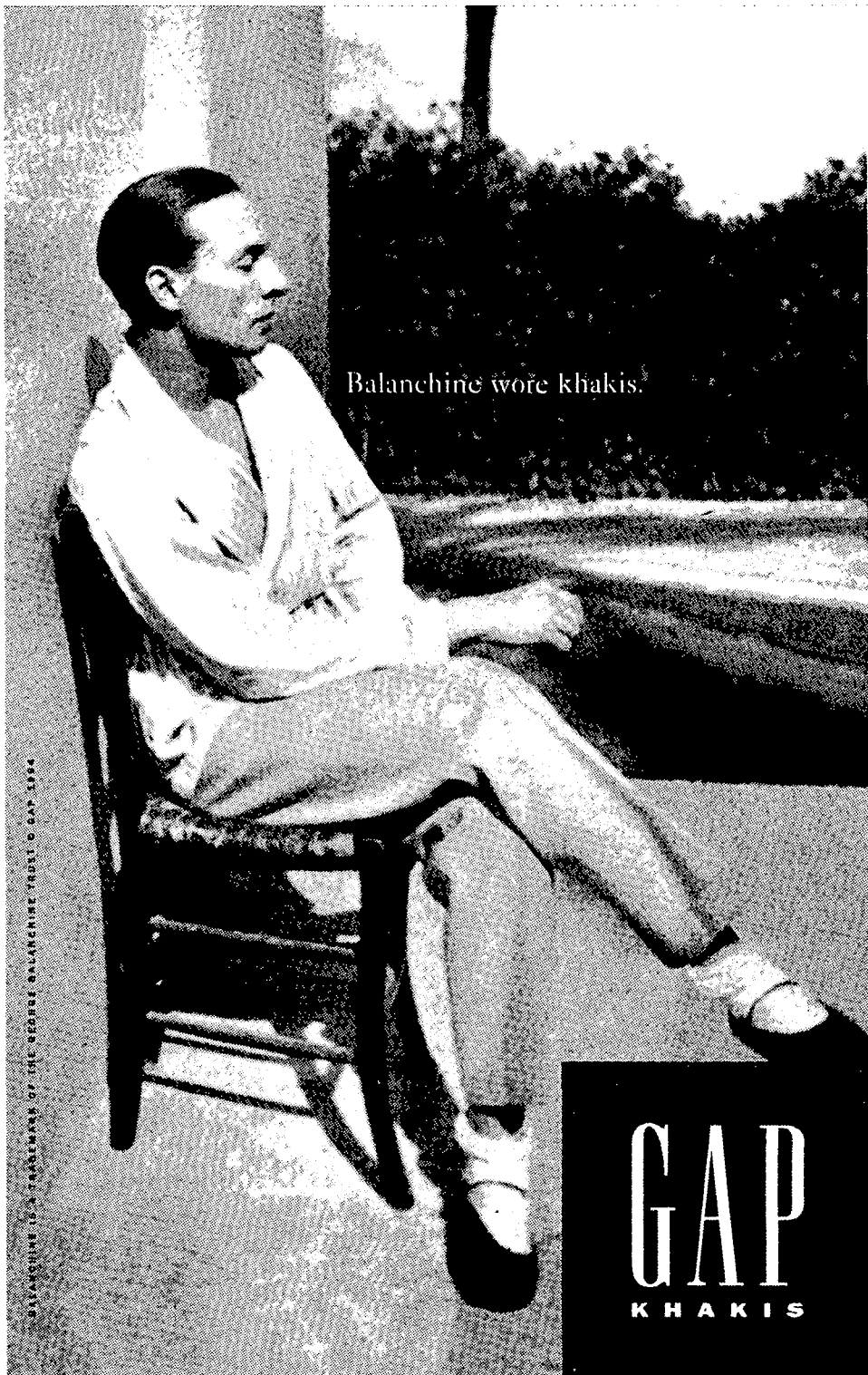
- Trees only! No bases (metal or plastic), ornaments, tinsel, painted or flocked trees. Do not put your tree in a plastic bag.

- Trees on the curb on other days will become trash.

- If you need to recycle your tree before or after your designated TreeCycling day, or for more information, call the San Francisco Recycling Hotline at 554-6193.



**San Francisco**  
**RECYCLING**  
PROGRAM



## Bernal residents on board for Jeremiah O'Brien's historic voyage

By Monica Conrady

When the Jeremiah O'Brien steamed out of the Golden Gate in April on its historic voyage to Normandy, Bernal Heights resident Ray Conrady was one of the

crew members on board.

The 51 year old Liberty ship was on its way to participate in the ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of D-Day. On board was an all-volunteer crew of



Bernal residents Monica and Ray Conrady aboard the Jeremiah O'Brien during its gala homecoming reception in late September.

mostly old salts under the command of Captain George Jahn, age 78. Conrady, an Elsie Street resident who in real life goes to sea as a radio operator in the Merchant Marines, sailed as second mate/navigator.

The O'Brien was one of 2,751 ships built during World War II to transport supplies and troops for the war effort. In 1946, she became part of the mothball fleet anchored in Suisin Bay, destined for the scrap heap. Fifteen years ago, she was rescued by a group of dedicated volunteers and brought

to a berth at Fort Mason's Pier 3.

About a year ago, the idea of going to Europe for D-Day really took off. Conrady, who had volunteered on and off for two years between jobs, worked on her every day in the three months before she sailed. Like a lot of people, he didn't really believe she would actually go. "I didn't start moving my stuff aboard until I saw the captain moving his," Conrady said.

Not only did the O'Brien get going, but it made the voyage to Normandy in record time. The voyage took them down the coast,

## Civic Hero



Robert Prentice, Ph.D.

Bernal resident Robert Prentice, Ph.D. was one of five "Civic Heroes" who received a Public Managerial Excellence Award for City Employees. Prentice, the Acting Deputy Director of Community Health Services, Department of Public Health, pursued the successful application for the designation of the Community Health Centers as Federally Qualified Health Centers. This move generated \$4.2 million in additional revenues in FY 93-94 and a projected \$4.5 million for the following year. This and other projects under Prentice's leadership have helped to get costs under control while delivering efficient services. The award was given by the Mayor's Fiscal Advisory Committee who along with the S.F. Planning & Urban Research Association and the S.F. Chamber of Commerce honored the winners at a civic recognition luncheon last month.

through the Panama Canal, up the Caribbean, then across the Atlantic to England. Conrady's wife, Monica (this writer), joined the ship when it got to England to help out in the gift shop during port calls. The ship had well over 20,000 visitors in the various ports of England and France.

The O'Brien steamed back through the Golden Gate on September 23 to a royal welcome. It

## Christmas in April to provide free home repairs for Bernal seniors

Anne McGannon,  
Christmas in April Associate

On April 29, 1995, several hundred volunteers from business, labor, service organizations and the community will converge in Bernal Heights to do free home repairs for qualifying homeowners. And you are encouraged to become part of the team—either as a homeowner or a volunteer.

Christmas in April \* San Francisco is part of a national effort to help low-income, elderly and disabled homeowners live safely and independently through volunteer repair of homes.

Working together in the tradition of an old-fashioned barn raising, CinA\*SF's skilled and unskilled volunteers improve the safety and comfort of the homes: they install handrails and grab bars, repair unsafe stairs and porches, clean out debris from yards and garages, paint interiors and exteriors, provide minor electrical and plumbing upgrades, and generally spruce up the homes. At one project, volunteers built a 40-foot wheelchair ramp, enabling the resident to leave her home unaided for the first time in years.

In partnership with the Bernal Heights Housing Corporation,

was the end of a glorious adventure and the finale of a voyage many said couldn't be done.

Bernal Heights resident Carl Nolte was also on board, working as a deck hand and writing dispatches for the Chronicle. A compilation of his articles is available in booklet form on the ship, which is presently berthed at Pier 32 and open to visitors.

CinA\*SF has refurbished a total of 37 homes in Bernal, including Precita House for African American families living with HIV.

"Our goal is to get everyone to pitch in, contribute what they can, and work together," says CinA\*SF Executive Director Sam Lawson. "Christmas in April sponsors and



Old-fashioned barn raising.

volunteers make a direct and visible contribution to the community...and they walk away with a renewed confidence that we can change some of the things that seem overwhelming."

Elderly or disabled homeowners who fall within federal low-to-moderate income guidelines are eligible for the program. The application deadline has been extended to December 31, 1994.

This program couldn't exist without the tremendous support of local volunteers, so we need you if you have energy, expertise or materials to donate. Call Christmas in April \* S.F. at 905-1611.

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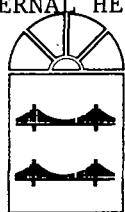
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## News from Bernal's Merchants

### Grand Openings

The Liberty Cafe at 410 Cortland has opened and is offering fresh, house-made breads, pastries and more. Owner Cathie Gunti prefers only the finest ingredients for her breakfast, lunch and dinner entrees. Open Tuesday thru Saturday with a Sunday Brunch.

Also celebrating a grand opening is Glenda Stubb's Mad Fish Cafe at 3369 Mission which serves pastries, espresso coffees, coffee to go and by the pound.

### Election Time

The South of Army and Mission Merchants will hold their annual elections at their meeting at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 8th at the Royal Kitchen, 3253 Mission Street. The annual Christmas Party date and planning will also take place.

Reliable Groceries and Cole Hardware are making it easier for seniors to shop in Bernal. Reliable Groceries, 249 Cortland, 648-5730 will deliver grocery orders of \$15 or more to seniors and Cole Hardware, 3312 Mission, 647-8700, will pick up seniors who would like to shop at their store.

# Bernal Calendar

## Alemany Farm Workday

Saturday, December 3, 9:00 a.m. - noon. Join the Green City Project and S.F. League of Urban Gardeners for a workday at the future site of the City's only community supported agricultural project. Ellsworth Street at Alemany Boulevard. Info: 285-6556.

**Meeting on Proposed Curfew** Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Neighbors are encouraged to attend a meeting to discuss Mayor Jordan's proposed Curfew Law that would apply to minors under the age of 17. Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue.

## Bernal Playground Renovation

Meeting, Wednesday, December 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The community is invited to attend a meeting to discuss the proposed renovation of the children's play area. Meet with Rec & Park representatives and give your input about the equipment upgrade and safety issues. Bernal Recreation Center on Moultrie Street at Jarboe Avenue. Joanne Wilson, 666-7110.

## East Slope Design Review Elections

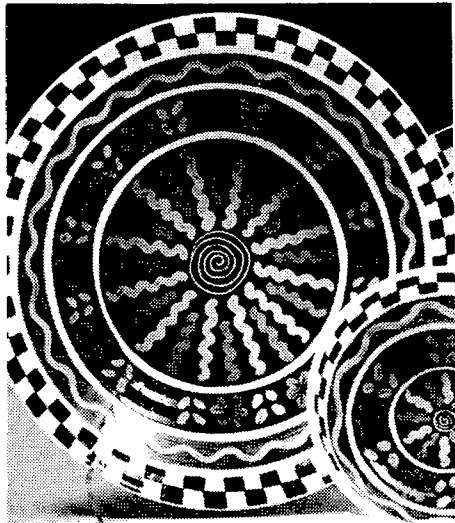
Thursday, December 8, 7:00 p.m. The East Slope Design Review Board, which looks at plans for new houses and major alterations, will hold its annual election. Residents in the East Slope area are encouraged to participate in this forum for neighbors to understand what is being developed in their area. Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue. For more info call Terry Milne, 285-8978.

## Crafts Boutique & Santa Visit

Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 10 & 11, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Beautiful, charming gifts, cards and decorations handmade with love by Bernal seniors will be featured at this annual arts & crafts sale. Santa & Mrs. Claus will greet children of all ages at 12:00 noon on both days. A fundraiser for Bernal Heights Senior Services. Admission free. Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Ave. 206-2145.

## Celebration of Craftswomen

Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 3 & 4, 10 & 11, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. S.F.'s largest juried crafts fair will feature 280 artists from Bernal Heights and from around the country. Entertainment, international food, childcare. Admission \$5/adults, \$4 seniors, children free. Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason. 361-0700.



Detail of ceramic work by Bernal Heights artist Jacqueline Thompson, participating in the Celebration of Craftswomen on December 3 & 4, 10 & 11 at Fort Mason.

## Pancake Breakfast

Sat. & Sun., Dec. 10 & 11, 9:00 a.m. - noon. John Momosea will be flipping pancakes and frying up corned beef hash at this community fundraiser, \$4/adults, \$2.50 children. If you miss John's old Tradewinds Cafe will once again delight in his banana pancakes for an additional \$1 more. Neighborhood Center, 515 Cortland Avenue. 206-2145.

## "A Christmas Memory"

Thursday, December 15, 4:00 p.m. Book enthusiasts are invited to join a discussion about this Truman Capote work. Bernal Library, 500 Cortland Avenue. 695-5160.

## Alternative Crafts Fair

Sunday, December 18, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Affordable craft extravaganza featuring local artists. Unusual handmade gifts, face painting, music, food and fun for the kids. Free admission. Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center, 348 Precita Avenue. More info, Constance Lombardo, 282-2030.

## Jazz Ballet Classes

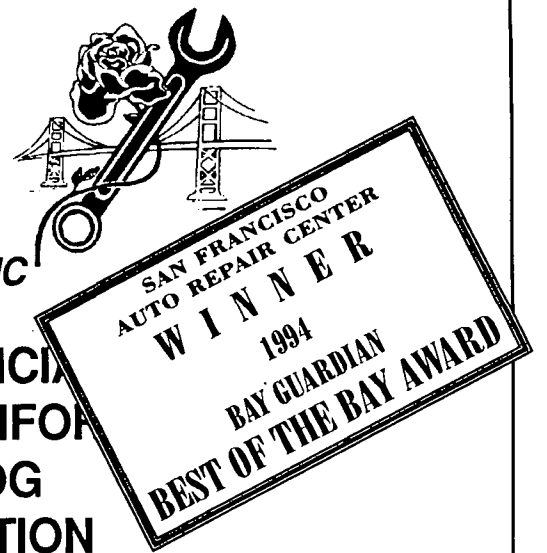
Thursdays. A free beginning/intermediate class is open to youths and adults who want to learn Jazz Dance in a non-competitive atmosphere. Taught by an instructor with over 18 years of experience, Natalia Njissang. Bernal Rec Center, Moultrie Street at Jarboe Ave. Call 695-5007.

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## Astro Rap

By Jessica Murray

The planet Jupiter goes into its own sign, Sagittarius, this December, for the first time in twelve years.

Internationalism will be a theme of the year to come. Foreign travel, diplomacy and an expanded perspective about the larger world will be a feature of both our national life and our personal lives. There will be mass wanderlust, literal for some, figurative for others.

But the most dramatic ingress of all is that of the distant planet Pluto, which after 12 years in Scorpio is changing signs. Pluto too is moving into Sagittarius, heralding more than a decade of subtle but profoundly radical changes in our religious assumptions as a people.

For consultations, call Jessica Murray, 626-7795.

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## Brewster/Joy area to see long awaited improvements

On December 1, San Francisco City representatives met with residents and property owners at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center to review the 90 percent preliminary design drawings for street and infrastructure improvements in the Bernal Heights Brewster and Joy Streets area.

Street and infrastructure improvements in the Bernal Heights East and South Slopes have been called for by community groups and residents since the late 1970s, based on their concern that deficient street conditions and inadequate water pressure and supplies would severely impair emergency vehicle access and hinder the Fire Department's ability to combat fires in these areas.

The plans incorporated comments from past neighborhood group meetings held in November 1992, April, 1993 and June 1994 which many residents attended. The meeting provided an opportunity for residents to be updated on the improvements planned for life and safety priorities in the area. Future plans for improvements planned for the Banks and Chapman and the Bradford and Jarboe areas were also presented.

The improvement effort is supported by the City and participating neighborhood groups and will be funded principally by the Sales Tax initiative that was passed by voters in 1989. The life and safety improvements include:

- Widening and improving Brewster Street (adding retaining walls and sidewalks).
- Improving stairs/pathway and lighting on Rutledge, Joy, Faith, Brewster, and Mayflower Streets.
- New stairway structure for Esmeralda Avenue (to access lower and upper Franconia).
- Fire hydrants (new, upgrading existing, relocating).
- Underground utilities lines.

Several city representatives from the Department of Public Works, Water Department, Fire Department, Streets & Highways, and Department of City Planning explained the improvement plans and were on hand to answer questions from concerned residents. For more information about the neighborhood review process and the final plans for the area improvements, contact Peter Albert, S. F. Planning Department, 558-6310.

## Business-as-usual at St. Luke's in wake of Prop. 187

By Richard Olive,  
Hospital Associate

St. Luke's Hospital has not altered any of its procedures for receiving or treating patients since California voters passed Proposition 187 on November 8.

"Courts have issued restraining orders against parts of the proposition and a federal judge is stopping the state from publicizing plans to implement it," said Sue Noyes, hospital spokesperson. "In the mean time, St. Luke's Hospital is continuing its business practices exactly as it did before the election."

"We want our patients and anyone needing our medical services to know they will not be asked

questions at St. Luke's that were not part of our routine before November 8."

The emergency department at St. Luke's is open 24 hours a day. The Neighborhood Clinic, located on the third floor of the Montecito Medical Center at 1580 Valencia Street is open weekdays from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

To reach the clinic, call 641-6500. For information concerning admission and business procedures, call 641-6657.



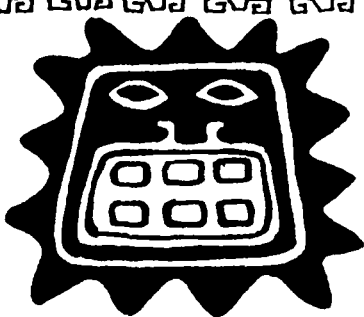
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